



INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 5 : B62B 3/10, B42D 5/00		A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 94/21508 (43) International Publication Date: 29 September 1994 (29.09.94)
(21) International Application Number:	PCT/GB94/00588	(81) Designated States:	AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DE (Utility model), DK, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, JP, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LU, LV, MD, MG, MN, MW, NL, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SI, SK, TJ, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
(22) International Filing Date:	22 March 1994 (22.03.94)	(30) Priority Data:	9305925.1 22 March 1993 (22.03.93) GB
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(75) Inventor/Applicant (<i>for US only</i>):	STARLING, Nicholas [GB/GB]; 105A New Road, Ware, Herts. SG12 7BY (GB).	(74) Agent:	With international search report. Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.
(54) Title:	CLIPBOARD		
(57) Abstract:	<p>A clipboard assembly comprising a support board (1) to receive a note pad (1b) or the like on a flat face surface (1a) thereof and a support bracket (8) with opposed tongues (6, 7) which may be selectively engaged with a slot (4) in a lower side edge of the board, one of said tongues (6) forming, in combination with spaced depending lugs (9), a channel to engage the top rail (11) of a shopper's trolley (12) with the tongue (6) being adapted to contact a lower part (13) of said trolley frame to provide stability against pivotal movement about the top rail (11). Each tongue (6, 7) is capable of engagement with the slot (4) with the one tongue (6) being substantially longer than the other tongue (7). With such an arrangement the bracket (8) may be stowed on the clipboard (1) when same is not in use by engaging the one (longer) tongue (6) with the slot (4) with detent or friction means being provided to retain the bracket engaged with the slot in the clipboard when in such a position the other (smaller) tongue (7) may be adapted to engage an elongate slot in a bracket (14) which may be secured to a suitable surface such as a wall.</p>		

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TITLE

CLIPBOARD

This invention relates to improvements in or relating to clipboards and is primarily, but not essentially, concerned with a clipboard for retaining a sheet of printed matter and wherein means are provided to enable the clipboard to be mounted on a shopper's trolley, basket or the like to form an aide memoire.

It is one of the objects of this invention to provide a clipboard assembly which may be mounted on or dismounted from a shopper's trolley using a simple constructional means.

It is a further object to provide a clipboard which may be mounted easily and in a stable manner on a shopper's trolley and, as an alternative, may be used in the home by mounting to a wall.

In accordance with this invention there is provided a clipboard assembly comprising a support board to receive a note pad or the like on a flat face surface thereof and a support bracket with opposed tongues which may be selectively engaged with a slot in a lower side edge of the board, one of said tongues forming, in combination with spaced depending lugs, a channel to

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Figure 2 shows the supporting bracket in perspective view and disengaged from the clipboard,

Figure 3 shows a rear view of the clipboard assembly showing the slot and the supporting bracket,

Figure 4 shows the assembly mounted on a shopper's trolley,

Figure 5 shows the assembly and supporting bracket for mounting on a wall surface,

Figure 6 shows the assembly and wall bracket connected together,

Figure 7 shows the assembly in cross-section on 7-7 of Figure 4 and mounted on a shopper's trolley,

Figures 8a to 8c show sections on 8-8 of Figure 3, with different configurations for keying the tongue on the board,

Figure 9 shows the clipboard and bracket being assembled for wall mounting,

Figure 10 shows the clipboard and bracket being assembled for trolley mounting,

Figure 11 shows an alternative use, and

Figure 12 shows a section on 12-12 of Figure 3.

Referring to the drawings, and in particular Figures

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tongue 6 engaged with the said slot so that the bracket can be stowed at the base 3 of the clipboard 1. In such a position, the lugs 9 will be upstanding and form tabs which serve as a pen holder (see Figures 5, 6, 9 and 11). In addition, and as shown in Figures 5 and 6, the shorter tongue 7, which is now protruding from the base 3 of the clipboard 1, may be arranged to engage a slot in a wall bracket 14.

As shown more clearly in Figures 3 and 12 the slot 4 is formed by a bar 5 integrally moulded with the board 1 and there are provided also two laterally extending ribs 5a. These ribs afford strengthening as well as defining an area into which a respective tongue 6 or 7 may locate with lateral stability.

Referring now to Figure 8 of the drawings, modifications are shown whereby insertion of a tongue 6 or 7 may only be made in the correct sense. As shown in Figure 8a, this is achieved by means of a groove in a surface of the tongue 6 or 7 which engages a central projecting rib 80 on the rear of the board 1. In Figure 8b a similar effect is achieved by angling the side edges of the tongues 6 and 7 which cooperate with undercut parts on the ribs 5a to form a dovetailed connection. In Figure 8c a further arrangement is shown wherein the rear of the board 1 between the ribs 5a is convexly

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6 and 7 with strip 8 to be pivotally mounted to the lower edge of the board whereby the tongue assembly may be rotated on the board so as to present one or other of the tongues 6 or 7 in the required position for engagement with the trolley 12 or with the wall bracket 14. Such an arrangement would then not require a slot 4 in the lower edge of the board 1.

As shown in Figure 5, the wall mounting bracket 14 may include a self-adhesive pad 14a to secure same to a flat surface such as a wall and furthermore, the rear of the clipboard 1, as shown in Figure 3, may include a magnetic rubber material 1c by which the pad may be attached to a suitable ferro-magnetic surface such as a refrigerator.

As shown in the drawings and in particular Figures 1 and 3, the clip member 2 comprises an integrally moulded part and where the construction is of a plastics material the inherent resiliency enables the top of the clip to be flexed sufficiently for a notepad or the like to be slipped under the retaining portion 2a and on release, the pad will then be firmly held.

The construction according to this invention thereby provides a convenient clipboard on which a shopping list may be retained and used in the home and which may be displayed in a prominent position using the wall bracket

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CLAIMS

1. A clipboard assembly comprising a support board to receive a note pad or the like on a flat face surface thereof and a support bracket with opposed tongues which may be selectively engaged with a slot in a lower side edge of the board, one of said tongues forming, in combination with spaced depending lugs, a channel to engage the top rail of a shopper's trolley with the tongue being adapted to contact a lower part of said trolley frame to provide stability against pivotal movement about the top rail.
2. An assembly in accordance with Claim 1, wherein each tongue is capable of engagement with the slot with the one tongue being substantially longer than the other tongue.
3. An assembly in accordance with Claim 2, wherein the bracket may be stowed on the clipboard when same is not in use by engaging the one (longer) tongue with the slot with detent or friction means being provided to retain the bracket engaged with the slot in the clipboard.
4. An assembly in accordance with any preceding claim,

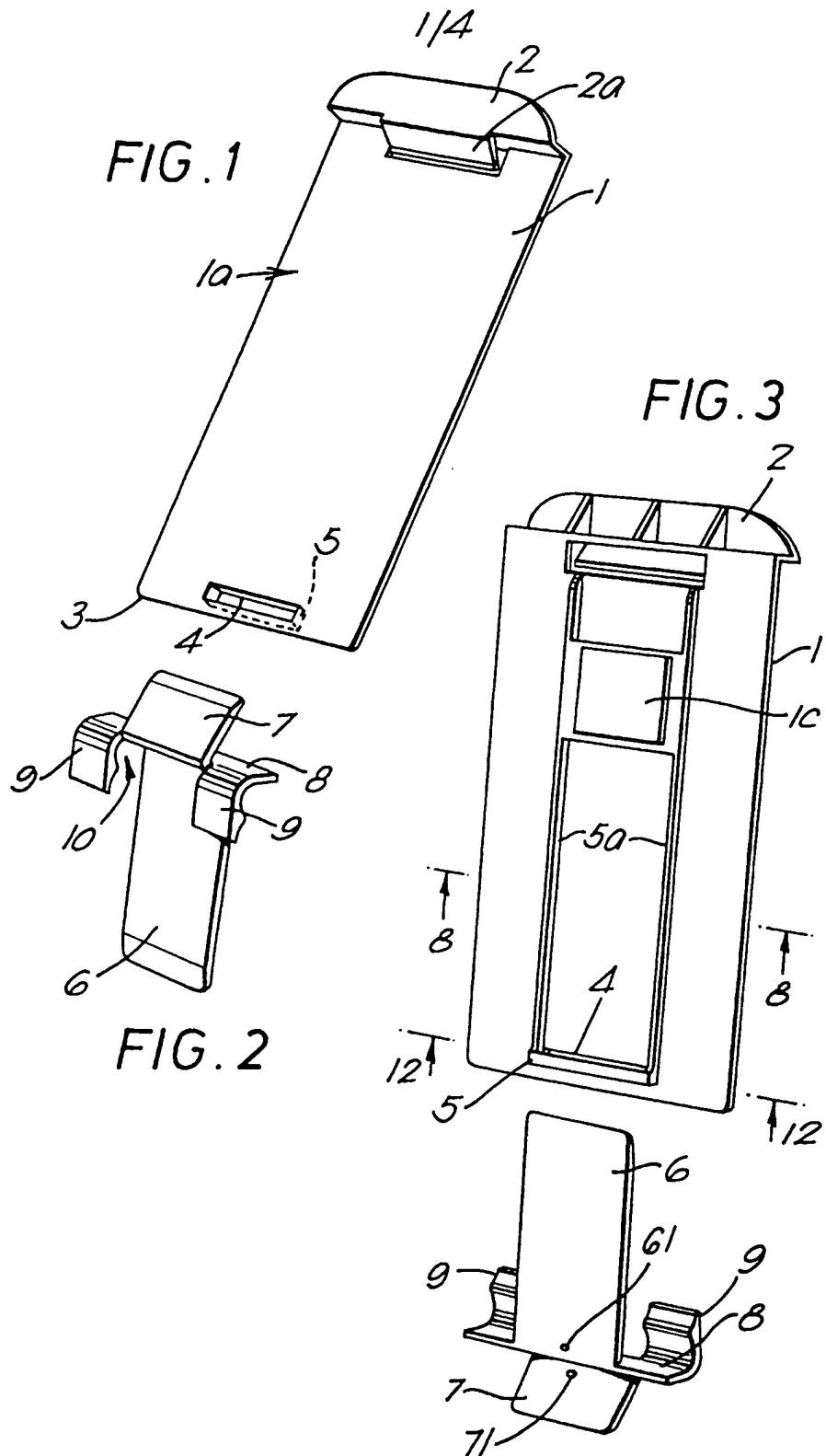
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9. An assembly in accordance with any preceding claim, wherein ribs extend from the slot on the rear surface of the board and define guides for the relevant tongue restraining same against sideways movement.

10. An assembly in accordance with any preceding claim, wherein the slot is defined by a bar extending across part of the rear surface of the board and upstanding therefrom.

11. An assembly in accordance with any preceding claim, wherein the support bracket comprises an elongate strip, one tongue projecting to one side thereof from a first edge, another tongue projecting to the other side thereof from a second and opposed edge, a lug spaced to each side of said other tongue on said second edge and projecting to said one side of the strip, the said one tongue and said lugs defining a channel coextensive with said strip to engage said top rail with deformation allowing snap-engagement therewith.

12. A clipboard assembly constructed and arranged to function substantially as described herein and as exemplified in the drawings.



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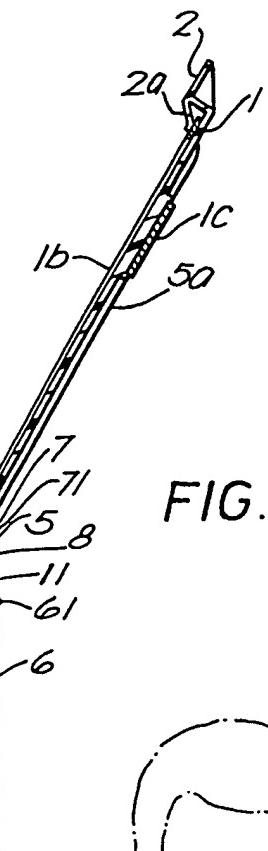
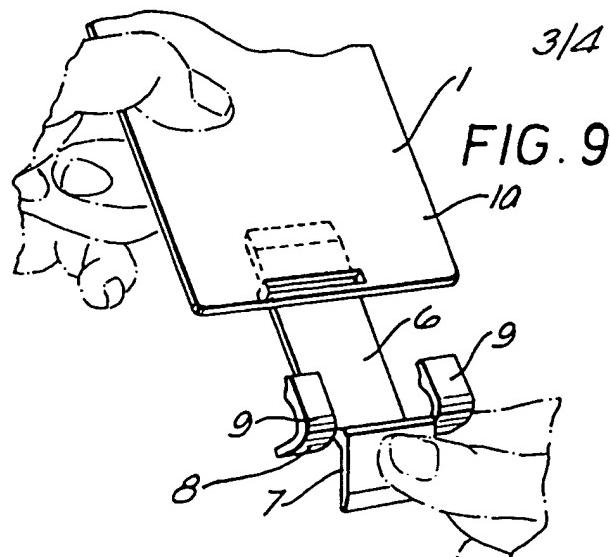


FIG. 10

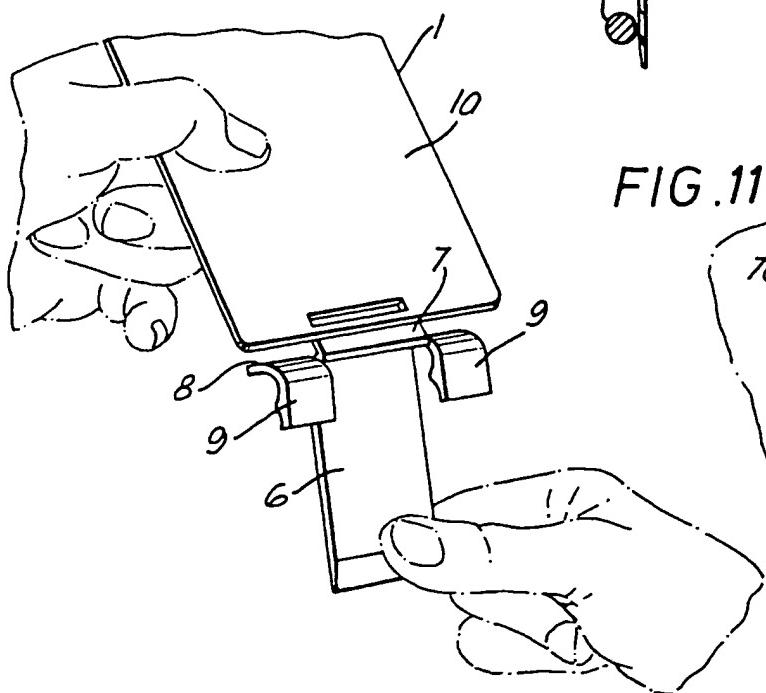
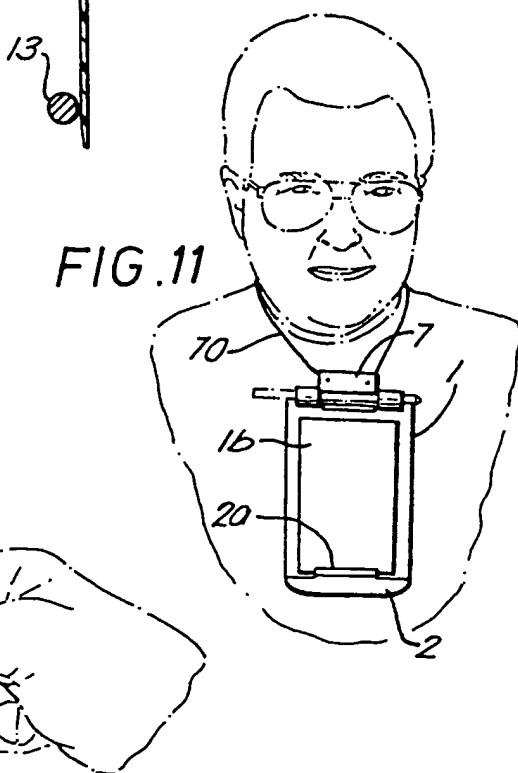


FIG. 11



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB 94/00588

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 5 B62B3/10 B42D5/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 5 B62B B42D B43L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US,A,4 685 701 (AMUNDSON, TOKAY) 11 August 1987 see the whole document ---	1
A	US,A,5 086 960 (SCHWEITZER) 11 February 1992 see the whole document ---	1
A	US,A,3 539 204 (KELLER) 10 November 1970 see the whole document -----	1

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search 4 July 1994	Date of mailing of the international search report 25.07.94
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